

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS
10.5

NATIONAL “CORE” PERFORMANCE MEASURES

01

PERFORMANCE MEASURE

Type: Capacity

Category: Direct Health Service

The percent of State SSI beneficiaries less than 16 years old receiving rehabilitative services from the State Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Program.

GOAL

For the State CSHCN program to provide rehabilitative services for blind and disabled children less than 16 years old receiving benefits under Title XVI, to the extent medical assistance for such services is not provided by Medicaid.

MEASURE

The percent of State SSI beneficiaries less than 16 years old who are receiving rehabilitative services from the State CSHCN program.

DEFINITION

Numerator: The number of State SSI beneficiaries less than 16 years old receiving rehabilitative services from the State's CSHCN program during the federal fiscal year.

Denominator: The number of SSI beneficiaries less than 16 years old in the State.

Units: 100 **Text:** Percent

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

Related to Objective 17.20.

Increase to 50 the number of States that have service systems for children with or at risk of chronic and disabling conditions, as required by Public Law 101-239.

**DATA SOURCE and
DATA ISSUES**

State CSHCN and Medicaid programs and Federal SSI program .

SIGNIFICANCE

Title V legislative requirements mandate the provision of rehabilitative services for blind and disabled individuals under the age of 16 receiving benefits under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program to the extent medical assistance for such services is not provided by Medicaid. The Title V responsibility for providing and promoting family-centered, community-based care serves as a basis for States to establish a policy whereby all SSI disabled children are eligible to participate in or benefit from the State Title V CSHCN Program.

02

PERFORMANCE MEASURE

Type: Capacity

Category: Direct Health Care

The degree to which the State Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Program provides or pays for specialty and subspecialty services, including care coordination, not otherwise accessible or affordable to its clients

GOAL

To provide and pay for services, including care coordination, for State specific subpopulations of CSHCN who are uninsured, under-insured, or under-served.

MEASURE

The State provides or pays for specialty and subspecialty services not accessible or affordable for subpopulations of CSHCN within the State.

DEFINITION

Attached is a checklist of 9 specialty and subspecialty services, provided or paid for, through State CSHCN Programs. Please check those provided for or paid by the CSHCN Program that were not otherwise accessible or affordable. Please keep the completed checklist attached. The answer is 0-9.

Units: 0-9 **Text:** Scale

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

Related to Objective 17.20.

Increase to 50 the number of States that have service systems for children with or at risk of chronic and disabling conditions, as required by Public Law 101-239.

**DATA SOURCE and
DATA ISSUES**

The State CSHCN Program.

SIGNIFICANCE

The State CSHCN Programs have traditionally provided and/or financed specialty and subspecialty care which is otherwise not accessible or available to subpopulations and has functioned as the payor of last resort for medical, habilitative and rehabilitative services, and equipment and assistive technology for segments of the CSHCN population. The legislation also mandates the direct involvement of State CSHCN Programs in the design and implementation of care coordination programs and the actual provision of care coordination services, as determined by the States. This function is particularly critical given current changes in coverage resulting from managed care arrangements. SSI changes will, at least temporarily, cause many children to lose Medicaid benefits and other welfare reform measures, which are expected to increase these numbers.

**SPECIALTY AND SUBSPECIALTY SERVICES,
PROVIDED FOR OR PAID BY, STATE CSHCN PROGRAMS**

- ☐ 1. Medical and surgical subspecialty services
- ☐ 2. OT, PT, services
- ☐ 3. Speech, hearing, and language services
- ☐ 4. Respiratory services
- ☐ 5. Durable medical equipment and supplies
- ☐ 6. Home health care
- ☐ 7. Nutrition services
- ☐ 8. Care coordination
- ☐ 9. Early intervention services

03

PERFORMANCE MEASURE

Type: Capacity

Category: Enabling

The percent of Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) in the State who have a “medical/health home”

GOAL

To have a “medical/health home” for all Children with Special Health Care Needs in the State.

MEASURE

The percent of Children with Special Health Care Needs who have a “medical/health home.”

DEFINITION

Numerator: The number of children in the State with Special Health Care Needs* (CSHCN) who have a “medical/health home,” during the federal fiscal year.

Denominator: The number of children in the State with Special Health Care Needs in the federal fiscal year.

Units: 100 **Text:** Percent

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

Related to Objective 17.20

Increase to 50 the number of States that have service systems for children with or at risk of chronic and disabling conditions, as required by Public Law 101-239.

**DATA SOURCE and
DATA ISSUES**

The State CSHCN program and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Available methods include NACHRI, QuICK (Stein, 1993), and NHIS (synthetic estimates).

SIGNIFICANCE

The MCHB uses the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) definition of “medical/health home.” The AAP believes that the medical care of infants, children, and adolescents ideally should be accessible, continuous, comprehensive, family centered, coordinated, and compassionate. It should be delivered or directed by well-trained physicians who are able to manage or facilitate essentially all aspects of pediatric care. The physician should be known to the child and family and should be able to develop a relationship of mutual responsibility and trust with them. These characteristics define the “medical/health home” and describe the care that has traditionally been provided by pediatricians in an office setting. In contrast, care provided through emergency departments, walk-in clinics, and other urgent-care facilities is often less effective and more costly. (American Academy of Pediatrics, Volume 90, Number 5, November 1992)

*Children with Special Health Care Needs are those who have or are at increased risk for chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional conditions, and who require health and related services or a type of amount beyond that required by children generally. Include children from birth to 21 years old. (See current MCHB definition paper.)

PERFORMANCE MEASURE**Type: Risk Factor****Category: Population-Based****Percent of newborns in the State with at least one screening for each of PKU, hypothyroidism, galactosemia, hemoglobinopathies [(e.g. the sickle cell disease) (combined)].****GOAL**

To assure that all newborns with preventable mental retardation and other non-reversible consequences of selected genetic disorders (PKU, congenital hypothyroidism, galactosemia and hemoglobinopathies) are identified as early as possible in the newborn period.

MEASURE

The percent of newborns in the State with at least one screening for each of PKU, hypothyroidism, galactosemia, and hemoglobinopathies [(e.g., the sickle cell diseases) (combined)].

DEFINITION

Numerator: The number of occurrent births in the State receiving at least one screen for each of PKU, hypothyroidism, galactosemia, and hemoglobinopathies [(e.g., the sickle cell diseases) (combined)].

Denominator: The number of occurrent births in the State.

Units: 100 **Text:** Percent.

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

Objective 14.15

Increase to at least 95% the proportion of newborns screened by State-sponsored programs for genetic disorders and other disabling conditions.

**DATA SOURCE and
DATA ISSUES**

State data system for newborn screening, CORN newborn screening annual report, and the birth registry.

SIGNIFICANCE

Newborn screening for PKU, hypothyroidism and galactosemia is one of the major public health success stories with a significant social and cost benefit. Preventable mental retardation, growth stunting and other illnesses are averted through early diagnosis and treatment of those with a confirmed diagnosis. It is crucial that the State's commitment to newborn screening is maintained and accompanied by a commitment for treatment and follow-up of diagnosed newborns.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE**Type: Risk Factor****Category: Population-based**

Percent of children through age 2 who have completed immunizations for Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Polio, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Haemophilus Influenza, Hepatitis B

GOAL

To avert all cases of vaccine-preventable morbidity and mortality in children.

MEASURE

Percent of 19-35 month olds who have received the full schedule of age-appropriate immunizations against measles, mumps, rubella, polio, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, H. influenza, and hepatitis B.

DEFINITION

Numerator: Number of resident children who have received the complete immunization schedule for DTP/DTAP, OPV, measles, mumps, rubella, H influenza and hepatitis B before their second birthday. Complete immunization status is generally considered to be:

- four DTP vaccinations (or an initial DTP followed by at least three DTP and/or DT) by the child's second birthday;
- three polio (IPV or OPV) vaccinations by the child's second birthday;
- one MMR between the child's first and second birthdays;
- three H influenza type b vaccinations; and
- three hepatitis B vaccinations.

Denominator: Number of resident children aged 2 years.

Units: 100 **Text:** Percent

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

Revised Objective 20.11

90% of children will have completed the full immunization schedule through age 2 (19-35 months).

**DATA SOURCE and
DATA ISSUES**

State Immunization Registry, CDC National Immunization Survey, State vital records, and Bureau of Census Population estimates.

SIGNIFICANCE

Infectious diseases remain important causes of preventable illness in the United States despite significant reductions in incidence in the past 100 years. Vaccines are among the safest and most effective preventive measures.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE

Type: Risk Factor

Category: Population-Based

**The rate of birth (per 1,000) for teenagers
aged 15 through 17 years****GOAL**

To lower the birth rate among teenagers, especially those aged 15 through 17 years.

MEASURE

The birth rate (per 1,000) for teenagers aged 15 through 17 years at the time of delivery.

DEFINITION

Numerator: Number of live births to teenagers aged 15-17 years of age in the calendar year.

Denominator: Number of females aged 15 through 17 years in the calendar year .

Units: 1000 **Text:** Rate per thousand

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

Related Objective 5.1

Reduce pregnancies among females aged 15-17 to no more than 50 per 1,000 females aged 15-17.

**DATA SOURCE and DATA
ISSUES**

Vital records are the source of data on mother's age and births. Population numbers are available from the census.

SIGNIFICANCE

DHHS is making teen pregnancies a priority goal (a major threat to healthy and productive lives) in their 1997 strategic plan. Teen parenting is associated with the lack of high school completion and initiating a cycle of poverty for mothers.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE**Type: Risk Factor****Category: Population-Based****Percent of third grade children who have received protective sealants on at least one permanent molar tooth**

GOAL

To prevent pit and fissure tooth decay (dental caries).

MEASURE

Percent of third grade children who have one or more sealed permanent molar teeth.

DEFINITION

Numerator: Number of third grade children who have a protective sealant on at least one permanent molar tooth.

Denominator: Number of third grade children in the State during the year.

Units: 100 **Text:** Percent

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

Objective 13.8.

Increase to at least 50 percent the proportion of children who have received protective sealants on the occlusal (chewing) surfaces of permanent molar teeth.

**DATA SOURCE and
DATA ISSUES**

This requires primary data collection, such as examination or screening of a representative sample of school children.

SIGNIFICANCE

Dental caries affects two-thirds of children by the time they are 15 years of age. Developmental irregularities, called pits and fissures, are the sites of 80-90% of childhood caries. Sealants selectively protect these vulnerable sites, which are found mostly in permanent molar teeth. Targeting sealants to those at greatest risk for caries has been shown to increase their cost-effectiveness. Although sealants have the potential to combine with fluorides to prevent almost all childhood tooth decay, they have been under-utilized.

In addition to being an excellent service in preventing tooth decay, sealants may also be a surrogate indicator of dental access, oral health promotion and preventive activities, and a suitable means to assess the linkages that exist between the public and private services delivery system. Public managed sealant programs are usually school-based or school-linked and target underserved children thus providing entre to other services. It has been stated on several occasions that dental sealants are the oral health equivalent of immunization.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE

Type: Risk Factor

Category: Population-Based

The rate of deaths to children aged 1-14 caused by motor vehicle crashes per 100,000 children.**GOAL**

To reduce the number of deaths to children aged 1-14 caused by motor vehicle crashes.

MEASURE

The rate of deaths to children aged 1-14 caused by motor vehicle crashes per 100,000 children aged 1-14.

DEFINITION

Numerator: Number of deaths to children aged 1-14 caused by motor vehicle crashes. This includes all occupant, pedestrian, motorcycle, bicycle, etc. deaths caused by motor vehicles.

Denominator: All children in the State aged 1-14.

Units: 100,000 **Text:** Rate per hundred thousand

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

Objective 9.3a

Reduce deaths to children aged 14 and younger caused by motor vehicle crashes to no more than 3.5 per 100,000 children aged 1-14.

**DATA SOURCE and
DATA ISSUES**

Fatal Accident Reporting System (FARS), U.S. Department of Transportation and Vital Statistics Systems are sources of the data.

SIGNIFICANCE

About 50% of all deaths to children aged 1-14 are due to injuries, and around 80% of these are from motor vehicle crashes. Injuries are the leading cause of mortality in this age group and they are one of the most significant health problems affecting the Nation's children.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE**Type: Risk Factor****Category: Population-Based****Percentage of mothers who breastfeed their infants at hospital discharge****GOAL**

To increase the percentage of mothers who breastfeed their infants at hospital discharge.

MEASURE

Percent of mothers in the State who breastfeed their infants at hospital discharge.

DEFINITION

Numerator: The number of mothers in the State who exclusively* breastfeed their infant at hospital discharge.

Denominator: Number of occurrent births in the State in the calendar year.

Units: 100 **Text:** Percent

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000 OBJECTIVE

Objective 2.11

Increase to at least 75% the proportion of mothers who breastfeed their babies in the early postpartum period and to at least 50% the proportion who continue breastfeeding until 5 to 6 months old.

DATA SOURCE and DATA ISSUES

Ross Laboratories Mothers Survey; State WIC data, USDA; State Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System, CDC.

SIGNIFICANCE

The advantages of breastfeeding are indisputable and include nutritional immunological and psychological benefits to both infant and mother, as well as economic benefits.

*Exclusively is defined as vitamins, minerals, water, juice, cultural feeds given infrequently in addition to breastfeeds.

Source: Labbok and Krasovec, "Toward Consistency in Breastfeeding Definitions" in Studies in Family Planning 1990; 21, 4:226-230

PERFORMANCE MEASURE**Type: Risk Factor****Category: Population-Based****Percentage of newborns who have been screened for hearing impairment before hospital discharge****GOAL**

To reduce the morbidity associated with hearing impairment through early detection.

MEASURE

Percent of newborns screened for hearing impairment before hospital discharge.

DEFINITION

Numerator: The number of infants in the State whose hearing has been screened before hospital discharge by either tests of otoacoustic emissions or auditory brainstem responses.

Denominator: Number of births in the State in the calendar year.

Units: 100 **Text:** Percent

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000 OBJECTIVE

Objective 17.6

Reduce significant hearing impairment to a prevalence of no more than 82 per 1,000 people.

Objective 17.16

Reduce the average age at which children with significant hearing impairment are identified to no more than 12 months.

DATA SOURCE and DATA ISSUES

State birth certificates, new born hearing registries, tests of otoacoustic emissions and auditory brainstem responses.

SIGNIFICANCE

The advantages of early detection of hearing impairments are indisputable and include necessary follow-up of free and appropriate enrollment in habilitation and education programs.

*Hearing impairment covers the range of hearing deficits from mild loss in one ear to profound loss in both ears. Generally, inability to hear sounds at levels softer (less intense) than 20 decibels (dB) constitutes abnormal hearing. Significant hearing impairment is defined as having hearing thresholds for speech poorer than 25 dB. However, impairment (that is, deafness in one or both ears or any trouble hearing in one or both ears) will be used as a proxy measure for significant hearing impairment. -Disabilities and Chronic Disabling Conditions Objectives, *Healthy People 2000 Review*, 1997, p. 163.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE**Type: Capacity****Category: Infrastructure Building**

Percent of Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) in the State CSHCN program with a source of insurance for primary and specialty care.

GOAL

To assure a source of insurance, including Medicaid, for primary and specialty care required to meet the needs of Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN).

MEASURE

Percentage of CSHCN in the State CSHCN program who have a source of insurance, including Medicaid, for primary care, specialty care, and enabling services.

DEFINITION

Numerator: The number of CSHCN in the State CSHCN program who have a source of insurance, including Medicaid, to cover the costs of primary, specialty, and enabling services during the reporting period. This may be measured by valid sampling techniques.

Denominator: The number of Children with Special Health Care Needs covered by the State program.

Units: 100 **Text:** Percent

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

Related to Objective 17.20.

Increase to 50 the number of States that have service systems for children with or at risk of chronic and disabling conditions, as required by Public Law 101-239.

**DATA SOURCE and DATA
ISSUES**

The State CSHCN Program.

SIGNIFICANCE

CSHCN are disproportionately low-income, and because of this, they are at higher risk for being uninsured. Moreover, because their needs for health services extend beyond those required by healthy children, they are more likely to incur catastrophic expenses. Since children are more likely to obtain health care if they are insured, this measure is an important indicator of access to care.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE**Type: Capacity****Category: Infrastructure Building****Percent of children without health insurance**

GOAL

To ensure access to needed and continuous health care services for children.

MEASURE

Percent of children without health insurance.

DEFINITION

Numerator: Number of children under 18 in the State who are not covered by any private or public health insurance (including Medicaid or risk pools) at some time during the reporting year.

Denominator: Number of children in the State under 18 (estimated by Census in March).

Units: 100 **Text:** Percent

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

No HP 2000 Objective.

**DATA SOURCE and
DATA ISSUES**

There is no current uniform source of data at the State level, but data may be available by State estimate beginning in 1997 from the March CPS, U.S. Bureau of the Census. States need to choose among existing estimating techniques and use one consistently.

SIGNIFICANCE

There is a well-documented association between insurance status and utilization of health care services among adults. Less is known about the utilization of services in children. A 1996 study by the Harvard School of Public Health, The Henry J. Kaiser Foundation and the National Opinion Research Center, found the uninsured are four times more likely to have an episode of needing and not getting medical care. As noted in the 1997 "Families USA Report", children without health insurance have an average of 1 less visit per year and receive less treatment than insured children with similar problems.

13

PERFORMANCE MEASURE

Type: Process

Category: Infrastructure Building

Percent of potentially Medicaid eligible children who have received a service paid by the Medicaid Program

GOAL

To enroll all Medicaid eligible children in Medicaid ensuring better access to health care services.

MEASURE

Percent of potentially Medicaid eligible children who have received a paid Medicaid service.

DEFINITION

Numerator: Number of children 1 to 21 years of age who have received a service paid by Medicaid during the federal fiscal year.

Denominator: The estimated number of children 1 to 21 years of age who are potentially eligible, by State definition, for Medicaid at the end of the federal fiscal year.

Units: 100 **Text:** Percent

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

No HP 2000 Objective.

**DATA SOURCE and DATA
ISSUES**

Numerator: The State Medicaid program counts participation monthly and estimates annual caseload. There are peaks and valleys in participation throughout the year. Most systems do not link the income of the family on the program records, but only the eligibility category (e.g., AFDC, expansion, etc.).

Denominator: States may not have these data readily available and therefore estimates are made by using a variety of data from CPS, State programs, Census, and experience.

SIGNIFICANCE

Financial access to health care does not guarantee that all children will enroll and access care, but insured children are more likely to get care. Currently 3 million children are estimated to be eligible non-participants in Medicaid.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE**Type: Process****Category: Infrastructure Building****The degree to which the State assures family participation in program and policy activities in the State CSHCN program****GOAL**

To ensure family participation in program and policy activities in the State CSHCN program.

MEASURE

The State assures family participation in program and policy activities in the State CSHCN program.

DEFINITION

Attached is a checklist of 6 characteristics that documents family participation. Please check the degree to which the characteristics for the State CSHCN program have been implemented. The answer is 0-18. Please keep the completed checklist attached.

Units: 0-18 **Text:** Scale

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

Related to objective 17.20.

Increase to 50 the number of States that have service systems for children with or at risk of chronic and disabling conditions, as required by Public Law 101-239.

**DATA SOURCE and DATA
ISSUES**

The State CSHCN program.

SIGNIFICANCE

The last decade has emphasized the central role of families as advisors and participants in policy-making activities. The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989 (OBRA '89) created the legislative mandate that health programs supported by Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) would provide and promote family-centered, community-based, coordinated care.

Attachment - Performance Measure #14

SIX CHARACTERISTICS DOCUMENTING FAMILY PARTICIPATION IN CSHCN PROGRAMS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 0 1 2 3* | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Family members participate on advisory committees or task forces and are offered training, mentoring, and reimbursement, when appropriate. |
| 0 1 2 3 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Financial support (financial grants, technical assistance, travel, and child care) is offered for parent activities or parent groups. |
| 0 1 2 3 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Family members are involved in the Children with Special Health Care Needs' elements of the MCH Block Grant Application process. |
| 0 1 2 3 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Family members are involved in inservice training of CSHCN staff and providers. |
| 0 1 2 3 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Family members are hired as paid staff or consultants to the State CSHCN program (a family member is hired for their expertise as a family member). |
| 0 1 2 3 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Family members of diverse cultures are involved in all of the above activities. |

*0 - Not Met; 1 - Partially Met; 2 - Mostly Met; 3 - Completely Met

Total the numbers in the boxes (possible 0-18) and enter the number on the appropriate Performance Indicator row on Form 11 "Tracking Performance Measure by Service Levels of the Pyramid."

PERFORMANCE MEASURE**Type: Risk Factor****Category: Infrastructure Building****Percent of very low birth weight live births**

GOAL

To reduce the proportion of infants with very low birth weight.

MEASURE

The percent of very low birth weight infants among all live births.

DEFINITION**Numerator:** Number of live births with birth weight less than 1500 grams in the calendar year.**Denominator:** Total number of live births in the calendar year.**Units:** 100 **Text:** Percent**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE**

Objective 14.15

Overall Goal: Reduce very low birth weight to no more than 1 (one) percent of all live births.

**DATA SOURCE and DATA
ISSUES**

Birth certificates are the source for low birth weight.

SIGNIFICANCE

Prematurity is the leading cause of infant death. Many risk factors have been identified for low birth weight involving younger and older maternal age, poverty, late prenatal care, smoking and substance abuse.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE

Type: Risk Factor

Category: Infrastructure Building

**The rate (per 100,000) of suicide deaths
among youths aged 15 -19**

GOAL

To eliminate self-induced, preventable morbidity and mortality.

MEASURE

The rate (per 100,000) of suicide deaths to youths aged 15-19.

DEFINITION

Numerator: Number of deaths attributed to suicide among youths aged 15-19.

Denominator: Number of youths aged 15-19.

Units: 100,000 **Text:** Rate per 100,000

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000 OBJECTIVE

Related to Objectives 6.1 and 7.2a

Reduce suicides to no more than 8.2 per 100,000 youths aged 15-19.

DATA SOURCE and DATA ISSUES

State vital records is the source.

SIGNIFICANCE

Suicide is the third leading cause of death in the United States among youths aged 15-19, and in many States it ranks as the second leading cause of death in this population.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE

Type: Risk Factor

Category: Infrastructure Building

Percent of very low birth weight infants delivered at facilities for high-risk deliveries and neonates

GOAL

To assure that higher risk mothers and newborns deliver at appropriate level hospitals.

MEASURE

Percentage of very low birth weight (VLBW) infants delivered at facilities for high-risk deliveries and neonates.*

DEFINITION

Numerator: Number of infants with a birth weight less than 1,500 grams born at subspecialty facilities (Level III facility).

Denominator: Total number of infants born with a birth weight of less than 1,500 grams.

Units: 100 **Text:** Percent

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000
OBJECTIVE

Objective 14.14

Increase to at least 90% the proportion of pregnant women and infants who receive risk appropriate care.

DATA SOURCE and DATA
ISSUES

There is no national data source for this at present. Vital records and hospital discharge records would be sources.

SIGNIFICANCE

Very low birth weight infants are more likely to survive and thrive if they are born/cared for in an appropriately staffed and equipped facility with a high volume of high risk admissions.

*Note: Level III facilities were originally developed by the National Foundation March of Dimes in the first edition of *Improving the Outcome of Pregnancy*. The new edition of *Improving the Outcome of Pregnancy*, and the upcoming 4th edition of ACOG/AAP's *Guidelines for Perinatal Care* (Summer 1997) classify facilities as basic, specialty and subspecialty. The latter corresponds with Level III facilities and practitioner competencies. Although there is no universally applied scoring level for a high risk pregnancy, the 4th edition of *Guidelines* will identify some medical criteria for referral to the subspecialty center (e.g., women with severe pulmonary disease). Infants <1500 grams or <32 weeks should be delivered or transferred to a subspecialty center (level III). In addition, women with IUGR, placenta previa, polyhydramnios and those needing immediate complex care should be transferred to deliver at a subspecialty center.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE**Type: Risk Factor****Category: Infrastructure Building****Percent of infants born to pregnant women receiving prenatal care beginning in the first trimester****GOAL**

To assure early entrance into prenatal care to enhance pregnancy outcomes.

MEASURE

Percent of infants born to pregnant women initiating prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy.

DEFINITION

Numerator: Number of live births with reported first prenatal visit during the first trimester (before 13 weeks gestation) in the calendar year.

Denominator: Number of live births in the State in the calendar year.

Units: 100 **Text:** Percent

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000 OBJECTIVE

Objective 14.11

Increase to at least 90 percent the proportion of all pregnant women who receive prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy.

DATA SOURCE and DATA ISSUES

Birth certificate data in the State vital records are available for over 99% of births.

SIGNIFICANCE

Early identification of maternal disease and risks for complications of pregnancy or birth are the primary reason for first trimester entry into prenatal care. This can help assure that women with complex problems and women with chronic illness or other risks are seen by specialists. Early high-quality prenatal care is critical to improving pregnancy outcomes.